



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ODESSA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO METH VIOLATION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Odessa, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Kenneth E. Haak, 40, of Odessa, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning.

By pleading guilty, **Haak** admitted that he possessed with intent to distribute methamphetamine on July 14, 2003. Specifically, **Haak** admitted that he was inside his trailer on July 14, 2003, in Odessa, when law enforcement officers were interviewing him and discovered a wooden box containing methamphetamine. Nearly five grams of pure methamphetamine was recovered from **Haak's** trailer. At that time, Graves said, **Haak** admitted that he did sell methamphetamine on occasion.

Prior to his arrest, Graves said, the officers observed a chemical odor, consistent with that of a meth laboratory, coming from the southwest corner of the trailer. Once inside the trailer, the officers observed a glass Pyrex dish and glass jar containing an unknown liquid sitting on top of the hot plate, which was located on the floor.

During their conversation with **Haak**, law enforcement officers observed him push the wooden box into a cushion behind him. After seizing the box, the officers recovered its contents, which included seven clear plastic bags, each containing methamphetamine, packaged for resale.

Haak was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on April 8, 2004, in Kansas City.

Under federal statutes, Graves said, **Haak** may be subject to a maximum sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$1 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States

Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the Jackson County, Mo., Drug Task Force and the Lafayette County, Mo., Drug Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow